

# CURIOUS PHENOMENON.

Observed on Grand Bank by  
Capt. James Hayes.

NO SIGN OF SQUID'S PRESENCE.

But Water for Miles Covered  
with Dead Caplin.

Capt. James Hayes of sch. Admiral Dewey, reports a peculiar sight on the shoal water of the Grand Bank recently, the water for miles around being covered with dead caplin. These fish in immense quantities would come to the surface and die.

The French fishermen in the vicinity were scooping them up in big nets and using them for bait, but catching little, as the cod would not bite as long as there were any squid on the ground. Some of the grizzled old Frenchmen, who have been fishing on Grand Bank all their lives, said that but once before in all their experience, had they known this phenomenon of the dead caplin on the surface to occur. They seem to think there has been some explosion of a subterranean nature which also might account for the absence of squid.

Capt. Hayes says that he would set his trawls baited with herring and would haul only to find the hooks almost buried with caplin. He says the French fishermen are almost crazy because of the absence of squid, which prevents them from catching codfish. Once in a while they would jig a few, and when they did could always get cod. As it was their dories would some days get none and on others would catch six or seven fish to a dory. They had done practically nothing, and had even tired jigging with "slikers" without success. There appeared to be really no squid on the bank.

## DANDY STOCKS AND SHARES.

Several of the Seiners Right in  
Clover.

Crews Secure Good Money on  
Big Fares.

Sch. Lottie G. Merchant, Capt. Christopher Carrigan, stocked \$4475.35 on her recent seining trip, the crew sharing \$113.52 each.

Sch. Diana, Capt. James McLean, stocked \$5030.34 on her recent seining trip, the crew sharing \$117.80 each.

Sch. Rival, Capt. Wesley Farmer, stocked \$4717.89 on her recent seining trip, the crew sharing \$114 each.

Sch. Ralph L. Hall, Capt. Frank H. Hall, stocked \$4300 on her recent seining trip, the crew sharing \$94 each.

Sch. Victor, Capt. John W. McFarland, stocked \$5139 on her recent seining trip.

Sch. Arcadia, Capt. Anson Leman, stocked \$5141 on her recent seining trip, the crew sharing \$122.46 each.

### Halibut from the Pacific.

The American Halibut Company received two car loads each at Boston and New York yesterday from the Pacific coast.

## DAILY TIMES FISH BUREAU.

### To-day's Arrivals and Receipts.

Sch. Colonial, Bargeo, N. F.  
Sch. Helen G. Wells, Bargeo, N. F.  
Sch. Ida S. Brooks, via Boston.  
Sch. Agnes V. Gleason, via Boston.  
Sch. Judique, via Boston, 45,000 lbs. salt cod, 14,000 lbs. fresh cod.  
Sch. Mary E. Cooney, via Boston.  
Sch. Almeida, via Boston.  
Sch. Dictator, Grand Bank, 16,000 lbs. halibut, 15,000 lbs. cod, 3000 lbs. flitched halibut.  
Sch. Elmer E. Gray, Scatter Bank, 40,000 lbs. cod, 18,000 lbs. fresh cod.  
Sch. Grace Darling, Rips, 40,000 lbs. cod.  
Sch. Nokomis, 2 swordfish.

### Today's Market.

Board of trade prices: Large headline Georges cod, \$4.25 per cwt. medium do., \$3.50; large trawl Georges, \$4.00; medium do., \$3.25; headline cod from deck, caught east of Cape Sable, \$4.00; medium do., \$3.25; large trawl qank cod, \$3.25; medium do., \$2.75; large dory headline cod, \$3.50; medium do., \$3.00.

Board of Trade splitting prices on fresh fish—All cod caught on Le Have Bank and to the westward, large \$2.05; medium, \$1.60; all cod caught to the eastward of Le Have Bank, large, \$2.05; medium, \$1.60; snapper cod fish, 40 cts.; cusk, \$1.40; haddock, 85 cts.; hake, 95 cts.; pollock, 50 cts.

Outside sales Georges cod, \$4.50 per hundred weight for large and \$3.50 for medium.

Outside sales Rips cod, \$4.15 per hundred weight for large and \$3.55 for medium.

Ipswich Bay pollock, 45 cts. per cwt.

Bank halibut, 8 cts per lb. for white and 5 cents for gray.

Fresh mackerel, 8 cts. each.

Salt mackerel rimmed \$14.00 per bbl., plain \$13.75 per bbl.

### Boston.

Sch. New England, 40,000 cod, 40,000 fresh cod.

Sch. Valentinna, 61 swordfish.

Sch. Dorcas, 6 swordfish.

Sch. Mettacommet, 31 swordfish.

Sch. Gleneig, 5000 haddock, 10,000 cod, 500 hake, 800 pollock.

30 bbls. fresh mackerel from Portland.

Haddock, \$5; large cod, \$4; market, \$3; hake, \$1.50; swordfish, 8 1-2 and 9 cents per lb.

### Mackerel Notes.

The little sch. M. Madeliene, Capt. Roland Brewer, which arrived here yesterday, was fairly loaded with mackerel, having 141 barrels of salt fish on board and that after landing 60 barrels fresh at Portland on the way home. Capt. Brewer has the happy faculty of catching remunerative trips, both of mackerel in summer and cod in winter.

Sch. Manomet, Capt. William Price, stocked \$4200 on her recent seining trip, the crew sharing \$128. Capt. Price has kept up his good record by rolling up a fine stock thus far this season.

A big haul of mackerel was made off Bear Cove, N. S., on Friday and a small number was caught in nets in the Arm Thursday night.

The storm seemed to interfere somewhat with the fishing fleet and but few arrivals were announced Monday at Portland, until late in the afternoon. The market was somewhat relieved by the arrival of a couple of small trips of mackerel, one of 30 barrels and the other of 40 barrels. The fish were caught to the eastward, but no large schools were reported.

The fare of sch. Manomet sold to Wm. F. Moore & Co. at \$13.50 per barrel.

The fare of sch. Mary A. Gleason sold to Hall & Co. at \$14 and \$13.75 for rimmed and plain.

Sch. Lena and Maud was at Rockland on Monday.

### Fishing Fleet Movements.

Sch. Isaac Collins was at Canso on Aug. 29 and sch. Slade Gorton sailed from there the same day.

## SPORTING FISH.

The Jacular Is the Sharpshooter of the Finny Tribe.

Certain fish have been termed "sporting" because they shoot their prey with great precision. The jacular fish of Java is of this sporting tribe.

Several of these fish in the possession of a Japanese chief were placed in a small circular pond, from the center of which rose a pole upward of two feet in height. Beetles were put on top of the pole on sharp pointed pieces of wood. The fish then came out of their holes and swam around the pond. One of them came to the surface of the water and rested there. After fixing his eyes steadily on a beetle he discharged a small quantity of water from its mouth with such force and precision as to knock the beetle off the twig into the water. In an instant the beetle had been swallowed.

After this another fish came up and performed a similar feat, and so the sport continued until they had caught all of the beetles. If a fish failed to bring down its prey the first shot it swam around the pool till it came opposite the quarry and fired again. In one instance a fish returned three times to the attack before it secured its prey, but usually the fish were very expert marksmen, bringing down the beetle at the first shot.

The fish frequent the banks of the rivers in search of food. When it spies a fly on the plants that grow in shallow water, it swims to a distance of five or six feet from it and then, with surprising dexterity, ejects from its tubular mouth a single drop of water.

### Good Fare.

Sch. Judique of this port, Capt. William Goodwin, arrived at Boston yesterday with a fine fare of 50,000 pounds of salt fish and 40,000 pounds of fresh fish.

Sept. 3.

### Good Stock.

Sch. Valentinna, Capt. Charles Neal, stocked \$1200 on her recent swordfishing trip, the crew sharing \$106, making one of the best trips of the season. Capt. Neal has been for several years the Sol. Jacobs of the little shore boat fleet, and this season, in a larger craft, he has met with a continuation of his former success.

### Big Price.

The salt bank cod, 40,000 pounds, of sch. New England, sold to Fred L. Davis at \$4.10 and \$3.62 per hundred weight, the highest price of the year.

## NOVA SCOTIA FISH NEWS.

Mackerel Are Now Reported Around  
Lunenburg.

Our Halifax correspondent wires us that the Dominion Fisheries Intelligence Bureau reported last night that mackerel were schooling around Lunenburg, but scarce on all other parts of the coast. Very few herring on the coast, but plentiful at Prince Edward Island. Mackerel plentiful at Magdalene Islands.